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### HONOR AMONG THIEVES

STRANGE EXPERIENCE OF CHUCCA, THE COMPOSER, WITH PICKPOCKETS.

ROMANTIC LOVE STORY OF THE PRINCESS ELIZA-BETH OF BAVARIA-MARSHAL SAINT-AR-NAUD'S GRANDDAUGHTER ARRESTED

-IS JOHANN ORTH ALIVE! All Madrid has been amused at a remarkable experience which befell Senor Chucca, the popular composer, a few days ago in the Spanish capital. In his latest piece, "La Gran Via," which has been the chief attraction at the opera house for some time, the maestro has endeavored to immortalize three pickpockets, known as "Les tres Ratas." The characters, in fact, are the chief ones of the piece. While riding recently in one of the tram-cars of Madrid one of the "long-fingered gentry" relieved Chucca of his pocketbook, containing his photograph and 200 pesetas. The composer reported the robbery to the police, with little hope, however, of regaining his property. The incident naturally was told in the newspapers. Twenty-four hours later the Senor received a package containing the mone, and the following letter:

and the following letter:
"Most Honored Master: By mistake one of our colleagues yesterday stole your pocketbook and its contents. Through the papers he learned of his error. The president of the society, to whom was intrusted the duty of repairing the evil done, honors himself in returning this to you, with the 300 pesetas. In order to avoid such a mistake in the future we have retained your photograph, to which we shall give a prominent place in our council chamber. Never again will the honorable Association of Madrid Pickpockets forget that it was you honored Master, through your operetta, who gave us a respectable and deserving place in society. With the highest respect, LES TRES RATAS."

The famous composer, however, is not the only one in Spain who is to be exempt from the depredations of this class of citizens. A few days after Chucca had recovered his property the wife of Senor Morano, a prominent editor of Barcelona, lost her gold watch, studded with diamonds. The Senor timepiece, promising to ask no questions. The paper had been on the street only a few hours edly surrounds the Archibke's discovery undoubted. when a handsomely dressel man called at the office and asked to see the editor. He gave him a packge and disappeared. The package contained the watch. The next mail brought a letter saying that the watch had been stolen by a Barcelona "rata," but that as soon as the council had learned that the jewel belonged to an editor's wife it had decided to return it. "We are not less honorable," the letter went on, "than our Madrid colleagues, Artists, authors and journalists in future are to be safe against our attacks,"

for a young lieutenant in the Bavarian Army worlds of Munich and Vienna recently. The young man is Baron Seefried, the scion of an old family, who met the Princess, it is said, when his regiment was sent to Munich a few years ago. When the affair became known everything possible was done to break it off by both the Bavarian and Austrian royal families. Princes of the blood were suggested for her hand and invited to visit the Bavarian court in the hope of winning her heart and causing her to forget the lowly suitor. But the attempts day hunting for an important paper in the archivproved vain. Extraordinary efforts were made cause of the announcement of the engagement of the Princess Augusta, the younger sister of Princess Elizabeth, and the Archdeke, Joseph Augustin, of Austria, it being contrary to royal custom that a

Princess Elizabeth, however, declared that she

Princess Elizabeth, however, declared that she would wed the Baron or remain single, and told her parents to proceed with the arrangements for the marriage of her sister. This was done, and the marriage took place a few days ago.

Several weeks before the wedding, however, Baron Seefried was transferred to the garrison of Metz, a long distance from the Princess. The absence of the reswetheart has only made ler love grow warmer, and it is rumored that she has been successful in inducing her grandfather. Emperor Francis Joseph, to favor her marriage to the Baron. His Majesty has decided to raise the Baron to the trank of count and give him a castle in Austria, where he is to live with his bride in the future. He will enter the Austrian Army, and in all probability become a prince of the Empire in the course of time, as he is a chivalrous and clever young fellow.

There have been comparatively few cases in Germany where princesses of the royal houses sacrificed their rank and position to marry men beneath them. One of the most conspicuous instances is that of the Princess of Schleswig-Holstein, aunt of the German Empress, who declined the offers of numerous men of equal station to wed the famous surgeon of Kiel, Dr. Frederick Esmarsch, who has since then been emobled by the Emperor of Germany.

A GIGANTIO SWINDLING SCHEME STOPPED. The police of Rome have arrested the ringleaders one of the most gigantic swindling schemes of the century. A band of thieves, under the leadership of the French Countess Saint-Arnaud, a granddaughter of the famous Marshal of France in th days of Napoleon; a reputed Duke Foscolo di fully played for months upon the interest of Caththroughout the world in "the prisoner of the Vatican." It is difficult to understand how they found so many dupes. They spread abroad the re-port, however-secretly-that the Pope was not so uch the prisoner of Italy as of the Free Masons mong the clergy; that His Holiness was confined in the cellars under the Vatican, and that a false Pope—a demon—in the form of Leo, sat on the throne of St. Peter. The band asked for money to rate the Pope and carry him to France

Ilberate the Pope and carry him to France.

A number of French priests, among others, were caught by the thieves and sent considerable sums of money to them. Monsignors Chai and Glemard, according to Italian papers, collected alone more than 20,000 lire for the purpose. Large sums in answer to the circulars arrived also from other countries.

Officers of the Vatican finally got a hint of the scheme and reported it to the police, with the result mentioned above. It was found that the Countess Saint-Arnaud had built a beautiful chapel in her palace, to which the dupes were introduced to listen to the corroboratory tales of a "speaking Madonna" regarding the imprisonment and sufferings of the Pope. Behind the Madonna, it is needless to add, was concealed one of the conspirators.

The Duke Foscolo represented himself as the Ambassador from Honduras, and among other things carried on the business of securing decorations for his "friends." More than 100 different decarations and orders—false ones, as a matter of course—were found in his rooms.

Strange to say, some of the dupes declined to believe the stories of the police, and appealed to King live the stories of the police, and appealed to King price.

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West 23d St.

Humbert and the Emperor of Austria to aid the imprisoned Pope. The photographs of all the thieves, including the Countess who bore the famous name, were found in the "Regues" Gallery" as the result of former crimes.

A SWEDE'S QUEER TALE. Interest in the romantic story of Captain Johann Orth, the Archduke John Salvator of Austria, who 'sailed away into the unknown" several years ag on the boat Santa Margareta, has been revived by the strange story of a Swedish fisherman. While on a northern tour a few weeks ago, the fisherma declares, he met a boat bearing the name Santa Markareta, commanded by a man who here a strik-ing resemblance to the pictures of the lost Frince. On board was also a woman, supposed to b his departure for South America. As soon as the fishing-boat, the Swede declares he changed his

course and sailed away. no adequate explanation of it has ever been given.
One straine fact in connection with the matter is
the neglect of the heirs of the Prince to collect the
insurance on the boat, although the societies long
age declared their willingness to pay it. This fact
has led many people to believe that the Imperial
family of Austria is in communication with the romantic capitain, but purposely keep the place of his
sojourn secret.

the jewel belonged to an editor's wife it had decided to return it. "We are not less honorable," the letter went on, "than our Madrid colleagues, artists, authors and journalists in future are to be safe against our attacks."

STORY OF A ROMANTIC PRINCESS.

The romantic attachment of Princess Elizabeth of Bavaria, the eldest daughter of Prince Leopold, for a young lieutenant in the Bavarian Army has been a favorite subject of gossip among the high worlds of Munich and Vienna recently. The young man is Baron Seefried, the scion of an old family, FIND OF THE MAYOR OF MITTENWALDE.

Hand the proposely keep the place of matched decided to match purposely keep the place of matched the proposely keep the place of matched the place of matched the place of the Hapsburg family. He had showed unusual the had showed unusual military talents and promised to become one of the lightest of the Austrian system is still a text-book for many Austrian officers. He was a composer, too, and had written several successful operas. He was the cleverest conversationalist operas. He was the proposely

FIND OF THE MAYOR OF MITTENWALDE.

The Mayor of Mittenwalde has become famous Until two weeks ago even the people of Germany had almost forgotten the existence of the little village in the Kelton district of Prussla, and none of them, it is safe to say, had heard the name of its municipal head. But the honorable Mayor was one of the courthouse and came across a document even though it will not add millions, as the Mayor thinks, to the treasury of Mittenwalde. The document contained two notes from the years 1562 and One of them showed that the city of Berlin had borrowed in 1549 400 guiden, which was to bear interest until paid at the rate of 6 per cent. The other note was for 700 guiden at the same rate of interest. It was signed by the Elector, Joachim of Brandenburg, an ancestor of the German Emperor, It ordered his descendants to pay the money to the good people of Mittenwalde in case he did not do so in his lifetime. Property in Berlin was given as

in his lifetime. Property h Bernis surety.

A statistician in Mittenwalde has reckoned the amount due the village from the city of Berlin to be 2,00,00,00,00 guidea? Some of the good citizens, forgetting the effect of prescription, have proposed that suit be brought against the capital and the German Emperor. The Berlin City Fathers and His Majesty, however, have not best many nights of sleep in the preparation of their defence. German historians, including Professor von Treitsche, are greatly interested in the documents, and the name of the Mayor of Mittenwalde in 1833 is sure to find a place on the pages of history.

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